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Diamond 25

Sculptors - V
(Statuettes)

11. 2002 02: 02366



Statues of Abraham Lincoln

Leonard Volk

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



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<http://archive.org/details/statuxxvlinc>

stood by me—the others were either against the proclamation or silent. Seward was at the head of the Union and slavery men. It was to counteract his and Thurlow Weed's influence that I was invited to repeat my Frankfort speech published in the Cincinnati Gazette. . . only modified to suit the low-school.

Among other miscellaneous penciled notations many of which Clay partly erased to the dismay of the student, he recorded on the bottom margin of page 13 under the heading of "The Proclamation of the 22d September, 1862" that "It seemed that the good providence stood by my recall in 1862. There were many men no doubt who saw as I did, but I only had the courage to speak out."

On page 14 Clay wrote "The Louisville Journal among other papers North and South said I ought to be sent to prison; and yet in a few weeks I was down in Kentucky with both branches of the Legislature listening to me proclaiming the same doctrines."

On page 21 under the heading of "Slavery in the Loyal States" Clay wrote "I never advocated compensation for slaves freed as a state-movement that put new difficulties in the way of freedom. But the National government would have done well to have freed . . . the slaves, as less expensive than war. This offer was refused by the states."

On page 24 at the end of the address Clay wrote "This speech, . . . refused publication in all the leading journals of New York, for love or money—was published at my own expense, & distributed over the world. The Russians translated it & dispersed it by hundreds of thousands. The time, in the midst of the Rebellion, when the policy of the government had yet to be fixed—when I stood so near alone in even the Republican party—makes this the principal speech of my life. Success followed fast in the wake of these sentiments & principles."

The cover page of the pamphlet bears the title *Speech of Cassius M. Clay, Before The Law Department of The University of Albany, N. Y., February 3, 1863. Second edi-*

tion—New York: press of Wynkoop, Hallenbeck & Thomas, No. 113 Fulton Street 1863. A pencil notation indicated that Clay intended for this address to appear in Volume 2 of *The Life of Cassius Marcellus Clay*. Only Volume I of the proposed two volume work was published in 1866. Another interesting notation on the cover page in red pencil indicates that he intended at one time to present this pamphlet to the so-called "Unrecognized Member of Lincoln's Cabinet" Anna Ella Carroll. In red pencil Clay wrote on the cover page "for Miss A. E. Carroll."

The Front Cover

(Photograph by Robert Walter)

The photographic reproduction of the statuette of Stephen A. Douglas which appears on the front cover is considered an excellent study of the Illinois statesman. The statuette was sculptured by Leonard Volk and it came to us with a companion study of Abraham Lincoln (though not of the same proportion) as a gift from a friend residing in Bloomington, Illinois.

While this summer issue is not a special Douglas number it is appropriate to publish a letter concerning certain details of the Lincoln-Douglas debates written by one of Lincoln's contemporaries, Hawkins Taylor, who attended the Chicago Republican Convention as a delegate from Iowa when Lincoln received the nomination for the presidency.

This same letter written at Washington, D. C., July 18, 1873, to Cassius M. Clay also praises Clay for his published criticism of Charles Francis Adams' "Address on The Life, Character and Services of William Henry Seward" delivered on April 18, 1872. Seward died October 10, 1872.

Cassius M. Clay was never a friend of Seward and he resented Adams' exalted praise of the former Secretary of State which reflected in turn on the character and ability of Abraham Lincoln.

The Hawkins Taylor letter is as follows:



Washington July 19th '73

Hon. C. M. Clay

My dear Sir

I have read your most admirable review of Charles Francis Adams oration on Seward, as an old neighbor and friend of Mr. Lincoln from the bottom of my heart do I thank you for your noble defense of one of the noblest men that ever lived. No man could have made the defense better & from no man would it be better received than from you. I again thank you.

It was in 1858 not 1860 that the Republicans put up Mr. Lincoln against Stephen A. Douglas as you will see by looking at the joint debates. The Republican State Convention met and after nominating the State officers they nominated Abraham Lincoln for the U. S. Senate, a thing never done by any other state that I recollect of. And at that time Illinois was full of the ablest of men—Judge Davis, Judge Logan, John T. Stewart, Richard Oglesby, O. H. Browning, Judd, Washburn, Wentworth & many others that was not without aspirations yet all were passed over & Mr. Lincoln nominated. Judge Charles Mason a man of large ability was then commissioner of patents. Judge Granger a half brother of Judge Douglas was in the Interior Dept. holding a responsible position. Mason seeing that Mr. Lincoln had been named for Senator by the State Convention supposed that it would create heart burnings with the other politicians of the party, said so to Judge Granger. Granger replied, "Douglas does not think so he says that he would rather meet any other dozen men on the stump than Mr. Lincoln, his nomination meant to me a hard fight" and Douglas at once left Washington, went to N. Y. & through Fernando Wood borrowed fifty thousand dollars on his Chicago property, now worth millions, but that was sold to pay the mortgage and went to Illinois, having arranged for a general ovation in Chicago. Mr. Lincoln at once proposed that they travel over the state and divide time, this Douglas refused, but finding the refusal was doing him harm he agreed to meet Lincoln six times, they afterwards increased the number to seven.

Mrs. Douglas accompanied her husband during the campaign but never failed to be in Chicago every Sabbath and attended Catholic church three times each Sunday, her efforts was her husband's success at that time.

None but an Adams could be so ungrateful as Charles Francis was in this oration, but he doubtless was looking to the White House while writing it out. He can never be president.

Yours truly,
Hawkins Taylor

LINCOLN COLLECTION
Wilmington Institute Free Library

The Library's special collection of Lincolniana was acquired as a gift from Mr. Frank G. Tallman who bequeathed his entire collection of Lincoln material to the library in 1938.

It contains over 2,000 books, many photographs, prints, medals and much miscellaneous material. Items of unusual interest are an engrossed copy of the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States signed by Abraham Lincoln, Hannibal Hamlin, Vice-President, Schuyler Colfax, Speaker of the House of Representatives, John W. Forney, Clerk of the Senate, and Edward McPherson, Clerk of the House; a copy of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by Abraham Lincoln and William Henry Seward; a copy of the Ford Theatre program for the play presented on the evening of Lincoln's assassination; and a number of Lincoln autographs. There are newspapers of the Civil War period and a complete file of Harper's Weekly, one of the most important sources of historical data, for the Civil War years. Since the opening of the Lincoln Room several people interested in the collection have presented books and other items.

The Lincoln Room was formally open on May 26, 1941. It was furnished as a typical American living room of Lincoln's time through the efforts of the Lincoln Club of Delaware and members of Mr. Tallman's family.

The library extends a cordial invitation to students of Lincoln to make use of the resources of the Lincoln Collection.



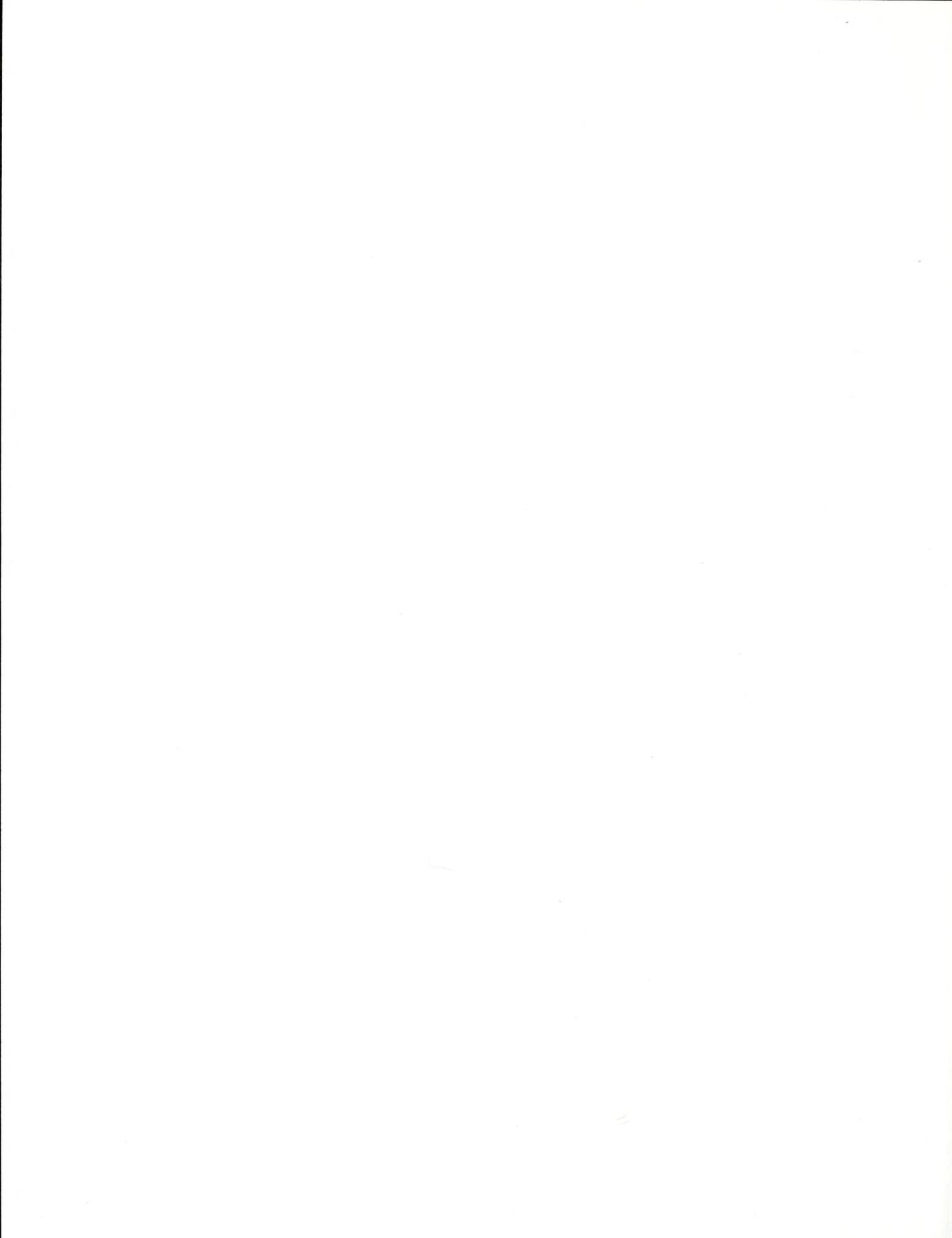
Volk Statue Portland, Me.



It's His Birthday

2-12-55

Mrs. Marilyn Harper, of the county clerk of courts office here, pauses to admire a statue of Abraham Lincoln today on the anniversary of the Great Emancipator's 146th birthday. The bronze statue of America's Civil War president belongs to Justice Francis W. Sullivan and stands in his court house office here. It is believed to be the work of Leonard W. Volk, who knew Lincoln and had done numerous statues of him as well as the Lincoln death mask. Jerome D. Volk, 658A Congress St., a grandson of the sculptor, told Justice Sullivan the statue's enlarged hand proves the authenticity of his grandfather's signature. Few people knew that Lincoln had such a large hand. (By Staff Photographer Curran)



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January 23, 1989

Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum
1300 South Clinton Street
P. O. Box 1110
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing a photograph of a Lincoln statue I own in hopes you can give me some information about it.

I bought the statue from an antique book store here in Lincoln, Nebraska where it had been for many years. The bookstore owner knew very little about it other than to say that it had belonged to a Jewish man in Omaha who collected Lincoln memorabilia, but had sold most of his collection and moved to Florida.

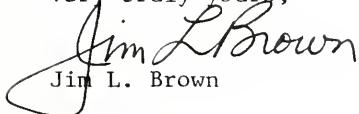
The statue is approximately three feet tall, very heavy, and is made of plaster of paris. It bears the following inscription on its base:

COPYRIGHT 1891 LEONARD W. VOLK.

I have been told that my statue is the artist's-model of a larger-than-life statue dedicated in 1892 in either Rochester or Albany, New York. I have seen a poor photocopy of a picture of the real statue, but do not know the source of the picture. The statue appears to be setting in a town square.

Any information you can give me on this statue, the artist, or the real statue would be very much appreciated.

Very truly yours,


Jim L. Brown







Volk Statuette - Fast that,

① "Copyright by P.W. Volk. Sculptor 1873"

A small figure in one hand — another in
reach. Cloth cap & tallow.

② "Copyright by Keweenaw Volk in 1881

Stature quite different from ①



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